



Department of Justice

United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky

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CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

HART COUNTY MAN INDICTED FOR DRUG OFFENSE

*– Execution of Search Warrant by Kentucky State Police
Results in Discovery of more than 1300 Pills Containing Pseudoephedrine*

LOUISVILLE, KY - A federal grand jury in Louisville returned an indictment against **Channing David Hatcher**, age 28, of 1004 North Toohey Ridge Road, Cave City, Kentucky, in Hart County, on charges of possession of pseudoephedrine with intent to manufacture methamphetamine, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

The Indictment alleges that on May 16, 2007, in the Western District of Kentucky, Hatcher knowingly and intentionally possessed pseudoephedrine with intent to manufacture methamphetamine. The charge set forth in the Indictment is based upon evidence discovered during the execution of a search warrant by Kentucky State Police detectives during the course of an investigation into methamphetamine manufacturing in Hart County. An essential ingredient in the manufacture of methamphetamine is pseudoephedrine, a chemical found in various types of cold tablets, which can be purchased without a prescription. The detectives found more than 1300 such pills on Hatcher's property. Methamphetamine sells on the street for approximately \$100 per gram.

In the event of a conviction, the maximum potential penalties are 20 years imprisonment,

a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Kentucky State Police, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

Hatcher is scheduled to appear for arraignment before the United States Magistrate Judge on August 22, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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The indictment of a person by a Grand Jury is an accusation only and that person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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